
ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

Compacting a mat of hot mix asphalt laid by an advancing asphalt paver by advancing an asphalt compactor over the laid asphalt such that a compaction surface of the compactor, formed by a lower run of at least one belt, is engaged with any one portion of the mat for a period of at least 1.5 seconds and less than about 60 seconds, the compaction surface applying a maximum average load stress to the mat of less than about 50 kPa and greater than about 10 kPa. Compaction may be achieved using a compactor with two longitudinally spaced modular compaction units connected relative to each other, and a power source for driving at least one of the modular compaction units.